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RELATING TO MOTOR VEHICLES; PROVIDING AN EXCEPTION TO WEIGHT AND
SIZE LIMITATIONS FOR CERTAIN VEHICLES TRANSPORTING SEED COTTON
MODULES.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO:

Section 1. A new section of the Motor Vehicle Code, Section 66-7-413.5 NMSA
1978, is enacted to read:

"66-7-413.5. EXEMPTION--VEHICLES USED TO TRANSPORT SEED
COTTON MODULES--LIMITATIONS.--

A. A seed cotton module transport vehicle may transport loads without
securing a permit or escort if:

(1) the vehicle is:

(a) no wider than nine feet;

(b) no longer than forty-eight feet; and

(c) no higher than fourteen feet six inches;

(2) the load is not transported for a distance greater than one
hundred miles;

(3) the gross vehicle weight of the vehicle is less than fifty-nine
thousand four hundred pounds;

(4) the vehicle is marked on the front and the rear with
"OVERSIZED LOAD" signs; and

(5) the vehicle is not operated on highways for which a more
strict size or weight limitation is required by federal law.

B. If the owner of a seed cotton module transport vehicle transports a
load of more than fifty-nine thousand four hundred pounds, the owner is liable to the
state, county or municipality for damage to a highway, street, road or bridge caused by
the weight of the load and transport.

C. If the seed cotton module transport vehicle is not operated on

1 routes identified by the state highway and transportation department as having
2 deficient bridge structures, the owner or operator shall obtain and have in possession
3 the deficient bridge information from the department on an annual basis.

4 D. As used in this section, "seed cotton module transport vehicle"
5 means a motor vehicle, trailer or combination of motor vehicle with trailer used
6 exclusively to transport a seed cotton module."

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